IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE e Application of asaru WATANABE et al. Serial No. 09/868,766 Examiner: D. Valencia Filed: June 21, 2001 Group Art Unit: 2874 For: **OPTICAL FIBER ATTENUATOR** WITH ATTENUATING DOPANT LIMITED TO A CENTRAL OR PERIPHERAL AREA OF THE FIBER CORE

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 14501 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the time period for filing a response to the final action of July 25, 2003, initially set to expire October 25, 2003, be extended an additional month up to and including December 25, 2003. The requisite \$310.00 fee (\$420.00 less \$110.00 paid November 20, 2003) for the requested extension is herewith attached.

Any additional fees may be charged to Deposit Account No. 12-2174.

12/24/2003 HDEMESS1 00000049 09868766

02 FC:1252

310.00 OP

Reg. No. 25,814

ctfully suba

Dated: December 23, 2003 LORUSSO, LOUD & KELLY 3137 Mount Vernon Avenue Alexandria, VA 22305 (703) 739-9393